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**WESTHOUGHTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.**



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**ANNUAL REPORT**

of the

**MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH**

and

**CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR**

for the Year 1956.



Westhoughton Urban District Council.

Public Health Committee

Chairman: Mrs. W. Kettle J.P., C.C.

Vice Chairman: Councillor H. Green.

Councillors:-

Mrs. E.A. Ashworth.                      A. Glover.

A.G. Woods.

H. Nickson.                                  F.W. Sharples.

Public Health Officers of the Authority.

Medical Officer of Health:

Ellis Taylor, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector:

James Occleshaw  
(Retired 31.10.56.)

R.S.H. Certificates  
Public Health Inspector and  
Meat and Other Foods.

Additional Public Health Inspector:

Wilson Scott Astall  
(Promoted Chief Public  
Health Inspector  
1.11.56.)

R.S.H. Certificates  
Public Health Inspector  
Meat and Other Foods  
and Smoke Inspector.

(The Post of Additional Public Health Inspector Remained  
Vacant at the End of the Year.)

Clerical Assistant:

Mrs. E.A. Holden.  
(Resigned 31.3. 56.)

Miss. A. Sharrock.  
(Appointed 9.4.56.)



To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee.

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the health and sanitary circumstances of the Urban District of Westhoughton for the year 1956, together with certain statistical information thereto, for your information and consideration.

STATISTICS

The estimated population of the district in 1956 was 14, 940, a decrease of 10 on the figure ascertained for 1955.

During the year a total of 193 births were registered, of which 7 were still born, so that the Live Birth Rate for the year under review is 13.1, as against 12.8 the previous year, and the Still Birth Rate 36 as against 37 in 1955.

Unfortunately thirteen infants failed to survive to their first birthday, giving an Infantile Mortality Rate of 38 for the year, as against 9 deaths and a rate of 27 the previous year.

I am pleased to be able to report that there has been no maternal death. The Maternal Mortality Rate therefore remains at nil.

The number of deaths, from all causes, was 204, giving a Crude Death Rate of 13.7

HEALTH SERVICES

The Lancashire County Council, through its Divisional Health Scheme, 1947, has continued to provide the personal health services in the district, details of which will be found in Section B of the Report, together with certain essential information in regard to other services.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES

As previously, the sanitary circumstances in the district have been kept under supervision, details of which will be found in Section C. Depleted staff over a major portion of the year however, allowed only the more urgent work of the department to be satisfactorily accomplished. The opportunities for really constructive effort must continue to wait for the morrow.

The resignation of the Council's Chief Public Health Inspector, Mr. Occleshaw, due to illness, was received with regret, especially so in view of his long and able service with this Authority. It is hoped that his health will improve and that he will enjoy his retirement.



## INFECTIOUS DISEASES

There has been no serious outbreak of infectious disease during the year.

Details of the various diseases concerned will be found in Section F of the report.

Yours faithfully,

E. TAYLOR,

Medical Officer of Health.

# SECTION A.

## Statistics and Social Conditions of the area.

### GENERAL.

Area of the district in acres.	- 5, 554
Population - 1956, Estimated.	-14, 940
Population - 1951, Census.	-15, 004
Number of Inhabited Houses at end of year	- 5, 099
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	- £294

### VITAL STATISTICS

<u>BIRTHS</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
(a) Live Births - Legitimate	91	93	184
Illegitimate	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>
	92	94	186
Live Birth Rate (Per 1,000 population) -	13.1		
(b) <u>Still Births</u>	3	4	7
Still Birth Rate (Per 1,000 total births) -	36		
(c) <u>Total Births</u>	<u>95</u>	<u>98</u>	<u>193</u>

### DEATHS

(a) Infantile - Neonatal -	6
Other -	7
	<u>13</u>
	<u>      </u>
Neonatal Death Rate (per 1,000 live births) -	32
Infantile Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births)-	38
(b) Maternal ... .. Nil	
Maternal Mortality Rate ... .. Nil	
(c) Cancer ... .. 27	
(d) Measles ... .. Nil	

DEATHS (Cont'd.)

(e)	Whooping Cough...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil.
(f)	Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil.
(g)	Tuberculosis - Pulmonary	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
	Non-Pulmonary.	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
(h)	<u>All Causes:-</u>							
	Male..	...	...	...	...	...	...	95
	Female	...	...	...	...	...	...	109
							Total	204

Death Rate (per 1,000 population)

(a)	Crude	-	13.7
(b)	Adjusted	-	15.6



The following is a statement showing comparative statistics for the years 1951 - 1956.

Year	Live Births	Deaths (all causes)		Stillbirths		Maternal Mortality		Infant Mortality				
		No. regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 pop'n.	No. regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 pop'n.	No. regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 total births	No. of deaths regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 total births	No. of deaths regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 live births	No. of deaths regis- tered.
1956	186	13.1	204	15.6	7	36	Nil	Nil	13	38	6	32
" 1955	182	12.8	195	13.7	7	37	Nil	Nil	9	27	4	22
" 1954	190	13.4	178	12.6	9	45	Nil	Nil	8	26	3	16
" 1953	172	11.1	164	11.6	6	35	Nil	Nil	10	36	4	24
" 1952	197	13.1	178	11.9	8	39	Nil	Nil	5	25	3	15
" 1951	178	11.9	197	13.2	4	22	Nil	Nil	3	17	2	11
Average 5 yrs. 1951-1955.	-	12.4	-	12.6	-	35	-	Nil	-	26	-	17

The following table gives the number of deaths  
from the various causes, during the year - 1956.

CAUSES OF DEATH	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Tuberculosis, respiratory	2	-	2
Tuberculosis, other	-	1	1
Syphilitic disease	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-	-
Meningococcal infections	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
Measles	-	-	-
Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	-	-
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	3	6	9
Malignant neoplasm, lung bronchus	4	1	5
Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	1	1
Malignant neoplasm, uterus and lymphatic neoplasm	3	7	10
Leukaemia aleukaemia	-	2	2
Diabetes	1	2	3
Vascular lesions of nervous system	7	18	25
Coronary disease, angina	27	11	38
Hypertension with heart disease	-	4	4
Other heart disease	12	31	43
Other circulatory diseases	8	3	11
Influenza	1	3	4
Pneumonia	2	2	4
Bronchitis	6	2	8
Other diseases of respiratory system	5	-	5
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	2	-	2
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1	-	1
Nephritis and nephrosis	1	-	1
Hyperplasia of prostate	1	-	1
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-	-
Congenital malformations	-	-	-
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	7	10	17
Motor Vehicle accidents	-	-	-
All other accidents	1	4	5
Suicide	1	1	2
Total	95	109	204

SOCIAL CONDITIONS

No material change.

SECTION B.

General Provision of Health Services.  
for the Area.

Ambulance Service.

Control Centre	-	Tel: Swinton 4343.
In Emergency	-	Tel: Farnworth 114.

Care of Children - Children Act, 1948.

Children's Committee, Lancs. C.C. - Area 9.  
Area Children's Officer - Miss. J.W. Cole,  
89/91, Railway Road, Leigh.  
Tel. Leigh 1658.

Clinics.

1. Antenatal and Postnatal.

Welfare Centre, Market Street, Westhoughton.  
Thursday 10.0.a.m. - 11.30.a.m.

2. Diphtheria and Whooping Cough Immunisation.

- (a) General Practitioner Service.
- (b) Welfare Centre, Market Street, Westhoughton.  
Thursday - 2.0.p.m.

3. Vaccination (by appointment)

- (a) General Practitioner Service.
- (b) Welfare Centre, Market Street, Westhoughton.  
(1st. Thursday each month)

4. Maternity and Child Welfare.

Welfare Centre, Market Street, Westhoughton.  
Tuesday and Thursday 1.45.p.m. - 4.0.p.m.

5. Ophthalmic (by appointment)

Welfare Centre, Market Street, Westhoughton.  
Wednesday - 10.0.a.m.

6. Orthopaedic (by appointment)

School Health Clinic, Jones Street, Horwich.  
1st. Wednesday each month.

7. Relaxation and Exercises Class for Expectant Mothers.

Welfare Centre, Market Street, Westhoughton.  
Tuesday 10.0.a.m. - 11.30.a.m.

8. Defective Hearing (by appointment)

Welfare Centre, Market Street, Westhoughton.  
Friday 2.0.p.m.

9. Dental.

Welfare Centre, Market Street, Westhoughton.  
Wednesday 10.0.a.m. and Friday morning.

10. School Health and Minor Ailment.

School Health Clinic, Market Street, Westhoughton.  
Monday and Friday mornings.

11. Tuberculosis Dispensary and Chest Clinic.

- (a) The Infirmary, Leigh.
- (b) Civic Centre, Bolton.

12. Venereal Diseases.

- (a) Civic Centre, Bolton.

Males and Females:-

Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 9.30.a.m. - 12.30.p.m.  
2.00.p.m. - 7.30. p.m.

- (b) Royal Albert Edward Infirmary, Wigan.

Males - Wednesday, 2.00.p.m. - 7.00.p.m.

Females - Wednesday 2.00.p.m. - 4.00.p.m.

4.30.p.m. - 7.00.p.m.

Convalescence.

Under arrangements made by the Lancs. C.C. Apply to Divisional Health Office, Leigh Road, Leigh.

Convalescent Treatment.

Under arrangements made by the Regional Hospital Board.

Health Visiting Service.

Two Health Visitors/School Nurses are employed full time by the Lancs. C.C. in the district.

Home Help Service.

Under arrangements made by the Lancs. C.C. Apply to the Divisional Health Office, Leigh Road, Leigh.



### Home Nursing Service.

District Nurses are employed full-time in the District by the Lancs. C.C.

### Hospitals

Royal Infirmary, Bolton;  
Bolton District General Hospital, Farnworth;  
Royal Albert Edward Infirmary, Wigan; and other general and infectious disease hospitals situated in the area of the Regional Hospital Board.

### Laboratory Facilities.

Regional Hospital Laboratory facilities at Bolton and Wigan Infirmaries and the Public Health Laboratory, Manchester.

### Maternity Homes.

"Haslam", "Havercroft" and "Heaton Grange" Maternity Homes, Bolton.  
"Firs" Maternity Home, Leigh.

### Midwifery Service.

Two full-time domiciliary midwives are employed in the district by the Lancs. C.C.

### Unmarried Mothers and Illegitimate Children.

Provision for their care is made by the Lancs. C.C.

### Welfare Services.

Under arrangements made by the Lancs. C.C. Residential accommodation at Atherleigh Grange and Hourigan House, Leigh.

### X-ray Facilities.

Available at the Bolton and Wigan Infirmaries. Special facilities for chest X-ray at the Hospital Board's Dispensaries and Chest Clinics.



## SECTION C.

### Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

#### Water Supply.

Bolton Corporation supply the district with water, which is of good quality. All dwellings are supplied directly with water from the mains. An improvement in storage capacity was effected following the completion of a new service reservoir capable of holding half a million gallons of water.

During the year eleven samples of water were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory at Manchester for bacteriological examination and all proved to be satisfactory.

#### Drainage and Sewerage.

This is on the combined system. There is one main sewage disposal plant at Rogers Farm and three subsidiary plants at Dicconson Lane, Dog Holes Farm and Marsh Brook respectively.

#### Closet Accommodation.

The approximate numbers and types of closet accommodation existing at the end of 1956 are shown below, the figures for the end of 1955 being shown in comparison:-

	<u>1956</u>	<u>1955.</u>
Number of Privy Middens	75	80
Number of closets attached to these middens	95	103
Number of Pail Closets	22	18
Number of Dry Ashpits	2	4
Number of Moveable Ashbins	5324	5156
Number of Trough Closets (1 installation, School)	1	1
Number of Waste Water Closets	45	46
Number of Fresh Water Closets	5449	5347

#### Conversions during 1956:-

Number of Privy Closets to Fresh W.C.'s.	-
Number of Privy Closets to Pails.	6
Number of Waste Water Closets to Fresh W.C.'s.	1
Number of premises at which moveable ashbins were substituted for fixed receptacles	8
Trough Closets to Washdown Pedestals	-

#### Public Cleansing.

Refuse collection and disposal is carried out by the Local Authority under the supervision of the Chief Public Health Inspector and every endeavour was made to maintain a weekly collection, though some variation in schedule was unavoidable during holiday periods and in the absence of workmen, owing to sickness. Three refuse collection vehicles are employed, two of the

## Public Cleansing (Cont'd.)

vehicles being side loaders and one new vehicle purchased in May, being a Shelvoke and Drewry Fore and Aft Tipper and Rear Loader. This vehicle is powered by a diesel engine and has shown to date approximately a fifty percent saving in fuel, as compared to the petrol engine vehicles.

A dustbin replacement scheme is operated by the Local Authority in relation to dwelling houses, the cost of which becomes a charge on the General Rate Fund. While the issue of bins has been lower each year than the figure of five hundred originally envisaged when the scheme commenced in 1951, the imposition of a thirty three percent purchase tax on bins during the year, added considerably to the cost of operation.

The amount of refuse to be dealt with continues to increase with the growth of housing accommodation. All refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping.

Street scavenging is the responsibility of the Surveyor and is done with manual labour.

## Salvage

The collection of waste paper and loose tins was as follows:-

	<u>Waste Paper</u>	<u>Loose Tins</u>	<u>Income</u>
1956 -	102 tons 18 cwts.	20 tons 17 cwts.	£801
1955 -	96 tons 16 cwts.	18 tons 15 cwts.	£834

A reduction in the price of waste paper accounted for the drop in income during 1956.

## Sanitary Inspections.

	<u>1956</u>	<u>1955</u>
Premises visited	1621	1605
Number of visits:-	3886	4846
Housing and Nuisances	1679	1886
Factories	82	221
Infectious Diseases	43	25
Rodent Control	42	21
Offensive Trades	23	56
Schools	30	139
Shops	513	523
Bakehouses	34	74
Fish Friers	29	21
Butchers Shops	90	168
Ice Cream Premises	104	132
Slaughterhouses	281	457
Food Premises	290	424
Miscellaneous	646	699

## Sanitary Inspections (Cont'd.)

### Defects or Nuisances:-

Number discovered	365
Number abated	261

### No. of Notices Served:-

Informal	108
Statutory	20

No legal proceedings were taken during the year.

### Outwork.

There are no outworkers in the district.

### Shops and Offices.

There were 513 inspections of shops carried out during the year, on behalf of the Lancashire County Council. Individual contraventions of the Shops Act, 1950, relating to ventilation, temperature and sanitary accommodation noted on these inspections, were dealt with informally and remedied.

Six inspections of offices were carried out during the year, under the provisions of the Public Health Act, 1936 and contraventions were dealt with informally and remedied.

### Smoke Abatement.

Fifteen observations were taken during the year, but no formal action was taken as a result of these.

### Offensive Trades.

We have one tripe dresser and one fat melter within the district, these premises are regularly visited.

### Common Lodging Houses.

There are no common Lodging Houses in the district.

### Swimming Baths and Pools.

There are no swimming baths or pools in the district.

### Disinfestation.

During the year no cases of bed bug infestation were dealt with by the Department, but five houses were treated with D.D.T./Pyrethrum solution following an infestation of earwigs, two houses were treated with D.D.T. Powder against a cockroach infestation and precautionary disinfestation was carried out at one house.



### Schools.

The water supply to the Schools in the area is constant and sufficient and regular colour washing of the conveniences is carried out. One school still has trough closets in use, 30 inspections have been made of the sanitary accommodation.

### Factories &c.

Visits were paid to factories as follows:-

Inspections	On Register	Inspections	No. of Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
Premises without mechanical power	5	10	-	-
Premises with mechanical power	66	62	3	-
Other Premises	23	10	4	-
	94	82	7	-

### Cases in which Defects were Found.

Particulars	Found	Remedied
Want of cleanliness	-	-
Unsuitable or defective sanitary conveniences.	8	7

### Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951.

There are no premises in the area where rag flock is manufactured, used or sold.

### Rodent Control.

During 1956 the work of rodent control continued, one part-time operative being employed.

All rat and mice infestations are promptly dealt with, private dwellings without conditions conducive to infestation, being treated free of charge. Treatment of business premises is charged on a basis of men's time and materials used.

## Rodent Control (Cont'd.)

Seventy-one surface infestations were dealt with and in addition the sewers and sewage works in the district were systematically treated in accordance with present Ministry instructions.

## Moveable Dwellings.

One licence was issued during the year in relation to an individual moveable dwelling occupied by two persons.

## SECTION D.

### Inspection and Supervision of Food.

#### Milk Supply.

There are 63 dairyfarmers in the district, 31 of which produce graded milk. The milk produced on these premises was sampled on 44 occasions.

A total of 55 samples were submitted for examination for the presence of tubercle bacilli and a negative result was obtained in each case.

No milk supply was diverted for heat treatment.

All milk supplied to schools is heat treated.

Under the provisions of the Milk (Special Designation Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations 1949, 78 persons were granted dealers licences to sell sterilised milk and 32 persons to sell pasteurised milk. Twelve dealers licences for the sale of Tuberculin Tested were also issued.

All milk sold by retail for human consumption in the district, must now be specially designated milk in accordance with the provisions of the Milk (Special Designation) (Specified Areas)(No. 2) Order 1954.

Action taken by the local authority in relation to samples taken in the district:-

#### (a) Raw Milk.

##### (i) Tuberculosis - biological test.

No. of samples...<sup>44</sup>... No. negative...<sup>44</sup>... No. positive...<sup>7</sup>...

##### (ii) Methylene Blue Reduction Test.

No. of samples...<sup>44</sup>... No. satisfactory...<sup>41</sup>... No. unsatisfactory...<sup>3</sup>...

#### (b) "Heat Treated" Milk - "Pasteurised"

##### (i) Phosphatase test.

No. of samples...<sup>22</sup>... No. satisfactory...<sup>22</sup>... No. unsatisfactory...<sup>7</sup>...

##### (ii) Methylene Blue Reduction Test.

No. of samples...<sup>22</sup>... No. satisfactory...<sup>22</sup>... No. unsatisfactory...<sup>7</sup>...

#### "Sterilised"

##### (iii) Turbidity Test.

No. of samples...<sup>10</sup>... No. satisfactory...<sup>10</sup>... No. unsatisfactory...<sup>7</sup>...



## Milk Supply (Cont'd.)

No. of notifications of tuberculous milk forwarded to the Divisional Inspector of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries in respect of:-

- (a) Milk produced in the district... .. -
- (b) Milk produced in other districts ... .. -

Result of Ministry investigations within the district during the year arising from notifications by the local authority:-

No. of veterinary inspections ... .. -

No. of cases where animals seized under Tuberculosis  
Order 1938... .. -

No. of animals seized ... .. -

No. of cases reported negative where animals had been sold  
prior to investigations.. ... -

No. of cases reported negative, no animals seized ... .. -

## Ice-Cream.

Forty-nine premises are registered for the sale of ice-cream, which is "pre-packed" with the exception of one shop selling a "cold mix" product.

## Shell Fish.

No cases of illness due to consumption of shell fish were reported.

## Food Premises.

No. of food premises, by type of business, in district at end of year:-

Type of business.	No.
General grocers and provision dealers. . . . .	74
Greengrocers and fruiterers (incl. those selling wet fish, game etc.).	18
Fishmongers (incl. those selling poultry, game etc.) . . . . .	1
Meat Shops . . . . .	17
Bakers and/or confectioners. . . . .	14
Fried Fish shops . . . . .	15
Shops selling mainly sugar confectionary, minerals, ice cream etc. . .	10
Licenced premises, clubs, canteens, restaurants, snack bars. . . . .	42

## Food Premises (Cont'd.)

It was only possible to carry out work of a limited nature in implementing the new Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955, but as far as practicable every effort was made to bring to the notice of Food Traders, the paramount importance of food hygiene. The co-operation of traders so far approached was good.

Recommendations were approved by the Council for additional hand washing facilities at four food premises in their ownership, to meet the requirements of the new Regulations.

### Bakehouses.

Fourteen Bakehouses are registered in the district and are kept in fairly satisfactory condition. 34 inspections of these premises were made during the year.

### Meat.

Five private slaughter-houses are operating in the district. None of these are used for the slaughter of horses.

Meat retailers premises are inspected regularly, 90 inspections being carried out.

Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part:-

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep & lambs	Pigs.
Number killed (if known)	197	216	Nil	130	2133
Number inspected	197	216	Nil	130	2133
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci.</u>					
Whole Carcases condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	1
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.	39	34	Nil	21	227
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and Cysticerci.	19.8%	15.7%	Nil	16.0%	10.6%
<u>Tuberculosis only.</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned.	-	-	-	-	2
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.	13	58	Nil	Nil	41
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis.	6.6%	26.8%	Nil	Nil	1.9%
<u>Cysticercosis.</u>					
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Generalised and totally condemned.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

Food Condemned.

The following foodstuffs were condemned and surrendered:-

Tinned Meat	17 tins	Liquid Frozen Egg (Australian)	9 tins
Tinned Fruit	154 tins	Fresh Meat	12 lbs.
Tinned Vegetables	33 tins	Fresh Salmon	175 lbs.
Tinned Milk	2 tins	Jam	1 jar.
Tinned Soup	1 tin	Tinned Fish	4 tins.



## Food Condemned (Cont'd.)

The total weight of food condemned excluding meat at Slaughterhouses was 6 cwts. 3 qrs.

Condemned meat is stained green and disposed of locally in Concentrators, for conversion to fertilizers and tinned food is buried, under supervision, at the Council's controlled tip.

## Food Poisoning.

One case only of food poisoning was notified during the year.

## SECTION E.

### Housing.

#### Statistics.

Thirty-six traditional type houses were completed on the Clough Farm Estate during the year. 40'x 3' bedroom and 6'x 2' bedroom type houses were under construction at the end of the year on the Clough Farm Estate.

Sixty-five houses were completed during the year by private builders.

#### Conditions - General Observations.

Of the older houses in the district most consist of the four room cottage type built in terraced rows. These are moderately well maintained, but lack such amenities as baths and hot water installations.

Quite a few of these houses are now owner-occupied and in addition to being well maintained have been considerably improved.

#### Sufficiency of Supply of Houses.

There were 279 applicants on the Council's Housing List, of these 143 were without separate homes and 136 were householders.

#### Fitness of Houses.

One of the major tasks of the Department during the year was the inspection and subsequent work involved in the submission to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government of seven Clearance Areas consisting of a total of thirty-one houses. In addition, twenty-three houses were represented individually as unfit for human habitation and Demolition Orders were made in relation to fourteen, Closing Orders in relation to five and four properties were the subject of Undertakings by the Owners not to use them for human habitation following their vacation, but to adopt them for storage or agricultural purposes.

## Fitness of Houses (Cont'd.)

The repair and maintenance of houses still remains a major problem, which demands a good deal of attention by the department. 945 inspections were carried out for this purpose during the year and 71% of defects or nuisances recorded were abated by the end of the year.

Applications relating to thirteen houses were submitted by private individuals to the Council for Improvement Grants under the Housing Act, 1949 and all were approved. Every encouragement was given by the Council to Owners wishing to bring their houses up to a modern standard and it is to be hoped that successive years will see more Owners taking advantage of a scheme designed to raise housing standards.

## SECTION F.

### Prevalence of, and Control over Infectious and other Diseases.

#### Diphtheria.

No case occurred in the district. The need to continue immunisation however, remains.

#### Dysentery.

Nineteen cases reported.

#### Erysipelas.

One case reported.

#### Food Poisoning.

This disease is notifiable under Section 26 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955. One case was reported during the year.

#### Malaria.

No new or recurrent case reported.

#### Measles.

A total of 19 notifications were received. The disease was mild in character, no case justified admission to hospital and all recovered.

#### Meningococcal Infection.

No case notified.



Paratyphoid Fever.

No case notified.

Pneumonia.

No case notified.

Polioencephalitis.

No case notified.

Poliomyelitis ("Infantile Paralysis.")

No case reported.

Puerperal Pyrexia.

No case reported.

Scarlet Fever.

Twelve cases occurred as against 9 in 1955. Again the disease was mild in character, no complications were reported, none had to be admitted to hospital and all recovered.

Smallpox.

No case or contact reported.

Tuberculosis.

Three new cases of respiratory tuberculosis were notified during the year as against six respiratory and one non-respiratory the previous year.

Whooping Cough.

Forty-six cases of whooping cough were notified during the year.

Corrected cases of infectious diseases (other than tuberculosis)  
 notified during the year, 1956.

	Cases notified.									Total Deaths	Cases removed to Hospital
	Total cases all ages	Under 1	1 to 3	3 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 45	45 to 65 and over		
Diphtheria	-									-	-
Dysentery	19	2	2	2	5	2	2	4		-	-
Acute Infectious Encephalitis	-									-	-
Erysipelas	1							1		-	-
Food Poisoning	1						1			-	-
Measles	19	2	4	10	3					-	-
Meningococcal Infection	-									-	-
Pneumonia	-									-	-
Polioencephalitis	-									-	-
Poliorrhinitis	-									-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-									-	-
Scarlet Fever	12		1	3	8					-	-
Small Pox	-									-	-
Whooping Cough	46	2	7	14	20	3				-	-
Total	98	6	14	29	36	5	3	4	1	-	-

Tuberculosis.

New Cases and Mortality during 1956.

New Cases					Deaths.			
	Respiratory		Non-respiratory		Respiratory		Non-respiratory	
Years	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0								
1								
5								
10								
15								
20		1						
25								
35	1							
45								
55								1
65 and over	1				2			
	2	1	-	-	2	-	-	1
	3		-		2		1	





